

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for removing liquid from a body of liquid, said apparatus comprising a hollow body having a substantially spheroidal or ovoidal shape which in use retains a pump inlet within an interior of the hollow body, the hollow body having one or more openings for ingress of liquid.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the openings are located at a circumferential portion or mid section of the hollow body.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the hollow body in cross section has an elliptical shape.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the hollow body is non-floatable.

5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein one or more openings in the hollow body comprise a plurality of spaced openings, which are arranged in a row about the mid section or mid part of the hollow body which has the greatest diameter.

6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein there is a single elongate opening in the hollow body about its central diameter.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the opening is adjustable in width.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the hollow body is comprised of two or more components which are releasably attached to each other.

9. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the hollow body is comprised of two half or semi-components which are attached to each other about the mid section or area of greatest diameter.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 or claim 10 wherein one component is hingedly attached to the other component at adjacent respective ends of each component.

11. The apparatus of any one of the preceding claims wherein the
5 hollow body has retaining means which in use retains the pump inlet within the hollow body.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the retaining means is a plurality of upright rods attached to an internal surface of the hollow body.

13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the retaining means is one
10 or a plurality of peripheral ribs located on an internal surface of the hollow body surrounding the pump inlet in use.

14. The apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the hollow body is provided with an attachment means for attaching a tether.

15. The apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims
15 which also includes the pump inlet.

16. The apparatus as claimed in claim 15 wherein the pump inlet includes a hollow valve casing having a non-return valve or check valve.

17. The apparatus as claimed in claim 15 or 16 wherein the pump
20 inlet in use is in flow communication with a pump located externally of the body of liquid.

18. The apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 15, 16 or 17 wherein the pump inlet is connectable to the pump by a hose.

19. The apparatus as claimed in claim 18 wherein the hose is
25 pivotally attached to the hollow body.

20. The apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 17, 18 or 19 wherein the pump is located on dry land or a pontoon or raft structure.

21. The apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 18, 19 or 20 wherein the hollow body is provided with one or a plurality of hose apertures.

5 22. The apparatus of any preceding claim wherein the pump inlet is protected by a strainer or gauze to prevent particulate matter entering the pump inlet.

10 23. An apparatus for removing liquid from a body of water, said apparatus comprising a hollow body which in use retains a pump inlet within the hollow body, the hollow body having one or more openings for ingress of liquid and comprising at least two components releasably attached to each other, wherein the one or more openings are located at a junction between said at least two components.